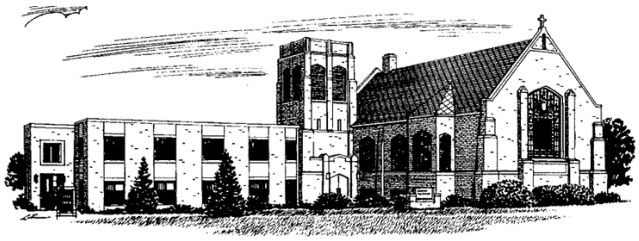


SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Chime Choir Director
Email: mroll@saronlutheran.org
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Denise Cook, Financial Secretary

Sundays at Saron:
Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

All are welcome!

We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

November 2013

Sunday mornings hold a different dynamic for me these days. The focus of that difference is the Confirmation Class. Typically I have had no more than three persons in the class; this year there are seven 6th – 9th graders. Much of the learning is the same, but I find myself planning differently for the larger group. The inquisitive minds have more than doubled; the stories of our week have multiplied. Granted, there are still the times we wander away from the topic a bit; yes, there is still the occasional broken pen and smeared ink. But, our conversations about Scripture and how it connects with life and faith remain good as we build on the knowledge that they bring into the class. Discussions about the sermon are informative and learning to pray with and for one another helps strengthen community. And, like other years, I am continuing to learn through these young people and am blessed for it.

It is my hope and prayer that this time together is a time to learn to ask questions. That coming together in faith we find a safe place to wonder and build each other up in the faith, and to explore what it means to put our faith into action, for the sake of the world. It is my hope and prayer that the learning never ceases.

Next time you see one of our young people (Austin, Colin, Troy, Brandon, Jenna, Meredith, and Carter) ask them what is happening for them on Sunday mornings!

Pastor Joan

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arlene Malkin** is at the Lakeland Continuing Care Center, 3425 Lakeshore Dr., St. Joseph MI 49085; **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Ruth Harris** is at Lakeland's Berrien Center Campus, 6418 Dean's Hill Road; **Ev Maki** is at Caretel; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; **Elvera Freier** is at Crownpointe Senior Living, Stevensville; **Dorris Doutt** is at Woodland Terrace, Bridgman and **Eleanor Anderson** at home.

Updated College Addresses Needed

Please contact the office with mailing addresses for your College Students and Active Military members. We'd like to stay in touch.

Serving in the military:

Ed Standen – Charleston, SC
Marko Wedde – North Carolina
Andy Wedde – North Carolina

Office Hours at Saron

Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9 AM - 11 AM+
Denise (financial secretary): times vary
Call for other times/changes

Pastor: most mornings, except Fridays
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.

Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in November

Nov. 4 - Laurel Gacek
7 - Meredith Gacek
8 - Andrew Marquardt
11 - Rosemary Bell
12 - Ryan Hessey
13 - Carter Hohman
15 - Coanne Hohman
19 - Brent Dipert
22 – Laraine Taylor
23 - Jean Pearson
Ruth Ball
Mary Kay Brown
25 - David Lundgren
27 - Gene Embree
28 - Melanie McCammon
29 - Dan Granger
30 - Denise Cook

November Anniversary Wishes …..

Nov. 1 - Ryan and Kelli Christman
4 - Burt and Jean Pearson (64 years)
5 – David and Patricia Young
21 - Mark and Deborah Vollmer
22 - Walter and Sally Schmuhl
John and Kerrie Hoodlebrink

For additions or corrections, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

We're working on a new church directory!
Please make sure we have your current information –
street address, phone number, and e-mail address.
We'd like to include YOU!

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

All Saints Day Sunday
November 3, 2013
Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Psalm 149 (1)
Ephesians 1:11-23
Luke 6:20-31

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 10, 2013
Job 19:23–27a
Psalm 17:1–9 (8)
2 Thessalonians 2:1–5, 13–17
Luke 20:27–38

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
November 17, 2013
Malachi 4:1–2a
Psalm 98 (9)
2 Thessalonians 3:6–13
Luke 21:5–19

Christ the King
November 24, 2013
Jeremiah 23:1–6
Psalm 46 (10)
Colossians 1:11–20
Luke 23:33–43

ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE

On All Saints Sunday, November 3, 2013, we will remember at worship those who have gone before us and have joined the church triumphant. If you would like someone to be remembered, please call the church office with the name and relationship of the person to be remembered or fill in the form at church and place in the offering plate. All names received by October 28 will be listed in the bulletin.

Thanksgiving Worship

Worship with us on Tuesday, November 26, at 7:00 p.m. as we join in thanksgiving.

Advent Mid-Week Activities

Mark your calendars now for our Wednesday evening Advent worship and activities. They will be December 4, 11, and 18. Supper will be at 6:00 p.m. with worship at 6:45 and activity following. Watch for more details.

Prayer

Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which will include lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

New Members Received

We welcome our new members! They are Ron, Fran, Nicholas, and Natalie Bolson; Matt, Amanda, Mia and Alaina Bradley; Gertrude Jurgensen; Flora and Austin Kamala; Elizabeth Kunkel; and Laura Miller.

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan Sunday

Pastor Phil Hemke, Director of Church Relations for LSSM will be with us on Sunday, November 10. Pastor Hemke will preach and lead the Adult Forum (9:40 a.m.) to help acquaint us with the ministry of LSSM as together we do "God's Work. Our Hands."

Come, learn more about this important ministry of which we are a part!

Learning book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast

Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast will be on November 2nd, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Gather at Saron for a devotion followed by breakfast at a local restaurant.

Bible Study – Wednesday Mid-day

You are invited to join a study and discussion on the Scripture readings that will be used the following Sunday at worship. Join the conversation on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM.

High School and Adult Forum

Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:40 in the lounge. Presently, we are watching the DVD series entitled *Lost Christianities* which considers the varieties of belief and practice in the early days of Christianity.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Join us on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00 for an 8-week study on the book of Revelation where we learn that "*God is profoundly concerned with the plight of the world, and faithful even amid the ordeals, tribulations, and plagues of the present and future. God is also exalted in the highest heavens, and brings about a renewed creation. In the end, the promise that Jesus will return is reason for hope, anticipation, and expectation."* Cost of the study book is $10.50. All are welcome!

1ST SUNDAY BOOK CLUB

November 3rd, at 6:30 in the upstairs lounge, we'll meet to discuss Orphan Train, A Novel: *by Christina Baker Kline. Moving between contemporary Maine and Depression-era Minnesota, the novel chronicles the so-called orphan trains that ran from East Coast cities to the farmlands of the mid-west from 1854 to 1929. Supposedly these trains were carrying orphaned children to new homes and new families. This is a powerful tale of "upheaval, resilience and second chances"(novel jacket). Linda Pater will be our discussion leader and share with us her mother's actual experience as a child placed on one of the trains.*

Sensible Shoes, by Sharon Garlough Brown is our December selection. Brown tells the story of four women, strangers, as they embark together on a journey of spiritual formation. Each has her own story of isolation and struggles, and with the collective support of the group, each will reach an understanding needed for a deeper life with God.

Upcoming selections for 2014 are:

February 9 (note, 2nd Sunday); Saturday, *by Ian McEwan*

March 2; The Light Between Oceans, *by M.L. Stedman*

April 6; Wild, *by Cheryl Strayed*

May 4; Room , *by Emma Donoghue*

October 5; The End of Your Life Book Club, *by Will Schwalbe*

We have some good discussions planned. Come join us as often as you can. Questions? Please call Kathie Bradley (269-427-7083) or Kathy Cowall (269-428-0354)

Outreach

Thank you!

Thank you so much for everyone who donated school supplies this Fall. In October four Benton Harbor teachers were thrilled to go "School Supply Shopping" at Saron. Everything from the copy paper to the pencils were given an abundance of "thank yous." The need is so great. Saron is such a giving, generous loving church family.

A Note from One of the Teachers

Dear congregants,

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Once again you've provided me and my students with many needed supplies. I cannot express how touched and overwhelmed I am by your continued generosity and kindness of spirit. My students provide me with countless moments of wonder and joy; however the trials of the job are also many. Today you made the difficult task of providing basic education supplies easier. You've helped me to be a better teacher for my kids by easing that burden. I realize that my words are a very small thanks for such a huge gift so I will try to pay this forward in some way – and I'll think of you as I extend the kindness to another.

Thank you again, Kelly Westgate

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen - News

Wow, we were busy on September 26! We served 191 guests our delicious ham dinner. Busy in the kitchen this month were Ruth Ball, Wendy King, Richard and Marlene Schalon, Betty Ross, Jan Stevens, Pastor Joan, Kathy and Pastor Cowall. Cookie bakers were: Kerrie Hoodlebrink, Thelma Reifschneider, Mary Kynast, Frieda Williams, Deanna Deaton, Colleen Lundgren, and Kathie Bradley.

Thank you for continuing to donate large cans of canned fruit.

Frequently asked question???How many cookies do you need each month? 28-30 dozen!!! So, if you like to bake..... , call me!! Thanks, Jan Stevens 429-2044

Meet Me at the Freezer

Meals are available for anyone to take to someone who might need one. Enjoying a visit and providing a meal is a wonderful way to tell someone that YOU CARE! The meals are in the freezer in Saron's dining room! If you would like to be involved when we cook again, please contact Jan Stevens @ 429-2044.

Used Eye Glass Collection

If you have old glasses or ones that you no longer wear, please help us, the Lions Club of St. Joseph Township, to help people around the world to see clearer what a beautiful world this truly is. There is a drop off "Eye Glass box" at church that I will collect the glasses from. Again thank you for your support and assistance.

Keith Stevens
Member of Saron and member of St. Joseph Township Lions

LWR Fair Trade

We support Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade farmers through our selling of coffee, tea, cocoa and chocolate at cost. We have flavored coffee, decaf, medium and dark roast coffees, black and green teas. Please support this ministry by purchasing these products regularly for yourself and as gifts. Thank you.

YOU ARE INVITED to Saron's SERRV Sale!

The sale supports artisans and farmers, impoverished families and developing communities. Each gift changes lives for the better. Buyers gain, knowing where your money is going. Recipients receive beauty. Artisans and farmers make progress: earning fair wages, building schools, digging wells, empowering women, and so much more.

Catalogues will be available in the narthex during November for you to browse & select items to purchase. Payment will be accepted with your order & items will arrive in time for Christmas. Contact Krin Jurgensen (269)369-4493) or Kathie Bradley(269-427-7083) for more information.

Are You Looking for Advent-Christmas Giving Opportunities this Year?

Check out www.elca.org/goodgifts for possibilities such as: animals for God's global barnyard, water wells, vaccinations for children, mosquito nets, protection for women and children, bibles and hymnals, and many more. There are opportunities, also, to GIVE "where needed most."

Women of the ELCA

Deborah Circle –

The Saron Church Women Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the church lounge. All women of Saron are welcome to attend. Business matters will be discussed and voted upon. Thankoffering will be collected. Betty Appel will be the hostess.

Lutheran World Relief Items Donated

Saron Church Women thanks everyone who contributed items for Lutheran World relief. The total was 71 personal care kits, 3 fabric kits, ad 47 bars of extra soap. Thanks to Betty Appel, Brian Culverhouse, Lyra Krall, Marilyn Lucy, Betty Ross, and Melanie McCammon for assembling and packing. Thanks, also to Mary Alice Brunner for transporting everything to the collection site in Portage. All donations are greatly appreciated and will be used by many people in need. Thanks, again.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. We like to have something after both early and late services. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Celebration! Cinema *is featuring a series of classic movies showing now until December 19. Titles include: On The Waterfront, Grapes of Wrath, The Birds, JAWS, Amadeus, From Here To Eternity and Sound of Music. Experience classic movies the way they were meant to be seen– On the BIG SCREEN! One film is available each week for viewing with current times as follows: Monday through Thursday, 1:30 PM, 5:45 PM, and 8:15 PM. Saturday through Sunday, 11:00 AM and 1:30 PM. All tickets are $4:00. We'd like to make a suggestion – if you'd like to watch the movies with your Saron friends, consider meeting them at the theater on Tuesdays at 5:45 PM or Sundays at 1:30 PM. If a following develops, you could decide to meet before or after the movie to catch a bite to eat at one of the restaurants near the movie theater. You can see a complete listing of the films, dates and times by checking the Celebration! Cinema website (celebrationcinema.com/location/BentonHarbor). Times have changed in the past, so be sure to check. There are some great titles, and this is sure to be a fun outing.*

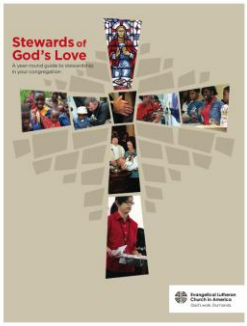
If you have any questions, let me know.
Thanks!
Joyce Marquardt

Another Save the Date request! Twin City Players is offering "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" during December. We're going to reserve a block of tickets for Saron members and friends to attend the play together on December 15 at 4 pm. This play is heartwarming and fun, and it's appropriate for all ages. We'll plan to have a light supper together after the play. A sign-up sheet for this activity will be up by mid-October to help us with planning.

Questions? Contact Mary Kynast or Joyce Marquardt

Support

"The practice of stewardship invites us to look in three different directions: DOWN, IN and OUT. We begin by looking at how God has come down to us. We then look in to discover all that God has entrusted to our care. We end by looking out to understand the needs of our neighbors. While these three actions may not always happen in this order, the practice of stewardship always invites all three."
www.elca.org/growingstewards



Nov 3	***In: What God has entrusted to our care***
Nov 10	***Out: Relationship with our neighbor***
Nov 24	***Commitment Sunday***
	Pancake breakfast 9:30-10:30

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22: 37b-39

Interested in stories of the ELCA at work?
Check out *http://www.livinglutheran.com/* to read daily conversations about what it means to live Lutheran.
Living Lutheran, a ministry of the ELCA, includes blogs, videos and member voices.

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving

If you know you'll be missing services any time during the year due to travel, living in another location during certain times of the year or other commitments, please consider setting up automatic contributions. Your consistent support is very much appreciated. Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions. Thanks.

Council News

Attendance Record	
09/29/2013	*84*
10/06/2013	*105*
10/13/2013	*86*
10/20/2013	*75*

Vision Statements:

Facilities

Create a physical environment that will support our ministry

Hospitality – Inclusivity and Welcoming

Offer for all, Christ's radical hospitality.

Worship

Provide enhanced relevant worship experiences.

Outreach

Serve our community with 100% participation of those who worship at Saron.

Youth

Strive to encourage each of our youth to grow into their unique potential for a Christ centered life.

Learning

Center our lives in Christ through life-long learning

Saron's Council Members – 2013

Dave Bradley (427-7083) – President
*Jan Stevens (429-2044) – Vice President, Outreach**
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Treasurer, Support
John Taylor (515-720-2124) – Secretary, Worship, Youth*
*Steve Bell (429-0239) – Facilities**
*Wendy King (429-2701) – Learning**
*Ken Ark (269-369-4766) – Youth**
*Connor Ashley – (269-282-6709) – Youth**
*John Hoodlebrink (408-1960) – Support**
Mary Kynast (428-0148) – Hospitality, Worship*
Joyce Marquardt (408-8650) – Hospitality, Outreach*
Joan Oleson (983-1273 office; 983-2475 home) – Pastor
**liaison*

Facilities

Thank you to everyone who helped with mowing this summer!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Marcus Roll as conductor of the Phantom of the Opera and the spectacular performances offered at the Southwest Michigan College through Down State Left Musicals. Also, to Tim Standen as the lead viola player of the orchestra.

If you had an opportunity to hear and watch the St. Joseph Middle School and High School choirs perform recently under the direction of Beth Gray-Roll, you were also treated to wonderful music and great talent. Thanks, Beth!

Imagine Worship

Blessing of the Animals

New Members Received

Preparing LWR Kits for the boxcar

Stewards of God's Love

Lay Assistants for November - 2013

Nov. 3 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Sue Rood
Reader/Com.Assist: Jan Stevens
Acolyte: Jenna Henderson
Ushers: Eric and Deborah Standen
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Nov. 10 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Wendy King
Reader/ Intinction: Jim Manore
Acolyte: Troy Burrow
Ushers : Walt and Sally Schmuhl
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Nov. 17 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Eric Standen
Reader/ Com. Assist : Fritz Knauf
Ushers: John and Kerrie Hoodlebrink
Acolyte: Tim Standen
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Nov. 24 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Marilyn Frey
Reader/ Intinction: Jan Stevens
Acolyte: C arter Hohman
Ushers: Allen Snyder and Steve Bell
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Nov. 3 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Connor Ashley
Reader/Com.Assist: Colleen Lundgren
Acolyte: Colin Ashley
Ushers: Dave and Kathie Bradley
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Judi Huff
Building Closing: Jerry and Ruth Stelling

Nov. 10 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Dennis Lundgren
Reader/ Intinction: Laurel Gacek
Acolyte: Connor Ashley
Ushers : Peter and Karen Johnson
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Krin Jurgensen
Building Closing: **Ken Ark**

Nov. 17 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Bill Oleson
Reader/ Com. Assist : Dan Fortenbacher
Ushers: Jerry and Ruth Stelling
Acolyte: Meredith Gacek
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Betty Appel
Building Closing: **Dennis and Colleen Lundgren**

Nov. 24 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Drew Huff
Reader/ Intinction: Jim Oleson
Acolyte: Drew Huff
Ushers: Jack and Cheryl Houser
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Karen Johnson
Building Closing: **Bob and Mary Kynast**

Thank you for your willingness to serve. If a conflict arises for your scheduled time, please find a replacement or change with another volunteer.

Calling the church office (983-1273) to alert us to changes will help us keep the bulletin as accurate as possible and know that everyone is in place on a Sunday morning.

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

November 2013

"God's work. Our hands"

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	OCTOBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	DECEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			C.W.U. 1 World Community Day 11am Bible Study 12pm Lunch 1pm Program At 1st U.M. Church St. Joseph, MI	2 9:00 a.m. Men's Devotion/Breakfast Turn Clocks back one hour
H.Com./Children'sSer. 3 *All Saints Sunday* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. S.C.S. Classes 6:30 p.m. 1st Book Club 11:00 a.m. Confirmation	4 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	5	6 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study	7 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	8	9
Intinction/Child. Ser 10 *24th Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes LSSM Sunday	11 Newsletter Articles Due 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	12 *Pastor on Vacation*	13 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Deborah Circle Meeting ----------	14 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal ----------	15 ----------	16 ----------
H.Com./Children's Ser 17 *25th Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes ----------	18 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting *----Pastor back*	19 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Vasa Meeting	20 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study	21 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	22	23
Intinction/Child. Ser 24 *Christ the King* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes Commitment Sunday	25 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	26 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Worship	27 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study	28 *Thanksgiving Day*	29	30